NUMB. LXXXIII.

The SPECTATOR.

——*Animum* picturâ *paſcit* inani. Vir.

Tueſday, June 5. 1711.

WHEN the Weather hinders me from taking my Diverſions without Doors, I frequently make a little Party with two or three ſelect Friends, to viſit any curious that may be ſeen under Covert: My Entertainments of this Nature are Pictures, ſo that when I have found the Weather ſet in very bad, I have taken a whole Day's pains to ſee a Gallery that is furniſhed by the Hand of Great Maſters. By this means, when my Eyes are filled with Clouds, when the Fields run in Rain, and all Nature wears a diſmal Countenance, I withdraw my ſelf from it into comfortable Scenes into the Viſionary Regions of Art, where I meet with ſhining Land-ſkips, gilded Triumphs, beautiful Faces, and all the ſweet Objects that fill the Mind with gay Ideas, and diſperſe that Gloomineſs which is apt to hang upon it in thoſe dark diſconſolate Seaſons.

Some ſome Weeks ago in a Courſe of theſe Di-verſions, which had taken ſuch an entire Poſſeſſion of my Imagination, that they formed in it a ſhort Morn-ing-Dream, which I ſhall communicate to my Rea-der as the firſt Sketch and Outlines of a Piece, than as a finiſhed Piece.

I dreamt that I was admitted into a long ſpacious Gal-lery, which had one ſide covered with Pieces of the Famous Painters who are now living, and the other with the Works of the greateſt Maſters that are dead.

On the ſide of the *Living* I ſaw ſeveral Perſons at Work in Drawing, Colouring, and Deſigning. On the ſide of the *Dead* Painters, I could not diſcover more than one Perſon at Work, who was exceed-ingly nice in his Motions, and wonderfully nice in his Touches.

I was reſolved to examine the ſeveral Artiſts that were before me, and accordingly applied my ſelf to the ſide of the *Living*: The firſt that I obſerved at Work in this Part of the Gallery was VANITY, with Hair tied behind him in a Ribbon, and dreſ-ſed like a *French-man*. All the Faces he drew were very remarkable for their Smiles, and a certain ſmirk-ing Air which he beſtowed indifferently on every Age and Degree of either Sex. The *Tonjours Gai* appeared even in his Judges, Biſhops and Privy-Coun-ſellors: in a word, all his Men were *Petits Mai-tres*, and all his Women *Coquets*. The Drapery of his Figures was extreamly well ſuited to his Faces, and was made up of all the glaring Colours that could be mixt together; every part of the Dreſs was in a Flutter, and endeavoured to diſtinguiſh it ſelf above the reſt.

On the Left-hand of VANITY ſtood a laborious Workman, who I found was his humble Admirer, and copied after him. He was dreſſed like a *Ger-man*, and had a very hard Name, that ſounded ſome-thing like STUPIDITY.

The third Artiſt that I looked over was FAN-TASQUE, dreſſed like a *Venetian* Scaramouch: He had an excellent Hand at a *Chimera*, and dealt very much in Diſtortions and Grimaces: He would ſometimes affright himſelf with the Phantoms that flowed from his Pencil. In ſhort, the moſt Elaborate of his Pieces was at beſt but a terrifying Dream; and one could ſay nothing more of his fineſt Figures, than that they were agreeable Monſters.

The fourth Perſon I examined was very remark-able for his haſty Hand, which left his Pictures ſo unfiniſhed, that the Beauty in the Picture (which was deſigned to continue as a Monument of it to Poſ-terity) faded ſooner than in the Perſon after whom it was drawn: He made ſo much haſte to diſpatch his Buſineſs, that he neither gave himſelf time to clean his Pencils, or mix his Colours. The Name of this expeditious Workman was AVARICE.

Not far from this Artiſt I ſaw another of a quite different Nature, who was dreſſed in the Habit of a *Dutch* Man, and known by the Name of INDU-STRY. His Figures were wonderfully laboured; if he drew the Portraiture of a Man, he did not omit a ſingle Hair in his Face; if the Figure of a Ship, there was not a Rope among the Tackle that eſca-ped him. He had likewiſe hung a great part of the

Wall

Wall with Night-Pieces, that seemed to shew themselves by the Candles which were lighted up in several Parts of them, and were so inflamed by the Sun-shine which accidentally fell upon them, that at first sight I could scarce forbear crying out *Fire*.

The Five foregoing Artists were the most considerable on this side the Gallery; there were indeed several others whom I had not time to look into. One of them however I could not forbear observing that was very busie in re-touching the finest Pieces, though he produced no Originals of his own. His Pencil aggravated every Feature that was before over-charged, loaded every Defect, and poisoned every Colour it touched. Though this Workman did so much Mischief in the side of the Living, he never turned his Eye towards that of the Dead: His Name was ENVY.

Having taken a cursory View of one side of the Gallery, I turned my self to that which was filled by the Works of those great Masters that were dead, when immediately I fancied my self standing before a Multitude of Spectators, and Thousands of Eyes looking upon me at once. For all before me appeared so like Men and Women, that I almost forgot they were Pictures. *Raphael*'s Figures stood in one Row; *Titian*'s in another; *Guido Rheni*'s in a third. One part of the Wall was peopled by *Hannibal Carrache*, another by *Correggio*, and another by *Rubens*. To be short, there was not one great Master among the Dead who had not contributed to the Embellishment of this side of the Gallery. The Persons that owed their Being to these several Masters appeared all of them to be real and alive, and differed among one another only in the variety of their Shapes, Complexions and Cloaths, so that they looked like different Nations of the same Species.

Observing an old Man (who was the same Person I before mentioned, as the only Artist that was at Work on this side of the Gallery) creeping up and down from one Picture to another, and re-touching all the fine Pieces that stood before me, I could not but be very attentive to all his Motions. I found his Pencil was so very light that it worked imperceptibly, and, after a thousand Touches, scarce produced any visible effect in the Picture on which he was employ'd. However, as he busied himself incessantly, and repeated Touch after Touch without rest or intermission, he wore off insensibly every little disagreeable Gloss that hung upon a Figure. He also added such a beautiful Brown to the Shades, and Mellowness to the Colours, that he made every Picture appear more perfect than when it came fresh from its Master's Pencil. I could not forbear looking upon the Face of this ancient Workman, and immediately by the long Lock of Hair upon his Forehead discovered him to be TIME.

Whether it was because the Thread of my Dream was at an end, I cannot tell; but upon my taking a Survey of this Imaginary old Man, my Sleep left me.

Compleat Setts of this Paper, for the Month of May, are to be sold by Mr. Graves in St. James's Street; Mr. Lewis under Tom's Coffee-House, Covent-Garden; Mr. Lillie, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford Buildings; Mr. Sanger at the Temple Gate; Mr. Lloyd near the Church in the Temple; Mr. Ka... ton in St. Paul's Church-Yard; Mr. Round in E... change Ally, and Mrs. Baldwin in Warwick-l... where also may be had those for the Months of M... and April.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the Desire of several Ladies of Quality,

For the Benefit of Mr. Burkhead.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-lane, this pres... Tuesday, being the 5th of June, will be presented a Co... called, The Stratagem. The part of Mrs. Sullen to be perform... Mrs. Oldfield, Aimwell by Mr. Mills, Archer by Mr. Wilks, ... Sullen by Mr. Keene, Boniface by Mr. Bullock, Foigard by Mr. B... Gibber by Mr. Cibber, Dicky Scrub by Mr. Norris, Dorinda by ... Bradshaw, Cherry Bunniface by Mrs. Bicknell. And likewise w... added a Farce, of one Act only, called, The Walking Statue; or ... Devil in the Wine-Celler. The Parts to be perform'd by Mr. ... Mr. Pack, Mr. Burkhead, Mr. Leigh, Mr. Bickerstaffe, Mr. ... Mr. Bullock, Jun. and Miss Sherburn. Being the last Time of ... this Play this Season.

This Play is sold by Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's Head over-a... Catherine-street in the Strand.

A Curious Collection of Italian Paintings, ... Giulio Romano, Guido Rheni, Albano, Alexander Varotari, G... mo Bassan, Tintoret, Benedetto Castiglione, Michael Angelo ... Battaglie, Salvator Rosa, Luca Jordano, Bernaschi, Claude L... Gasper Poussin, Francesco Bolognese, and Viviano, also of ... Baptista Bourdon, Le Brun, Hobein, Berghem, Brouwer, Sc... Teniers, and a very Capital Piece of Gerard Dou) Lately ... from beyond Sea; Will be Sold by Auction on Thursday the 7th ... stant, at the Two Flower Pots in Somerset House Yard: Where C... logues may be had, and the Pictures view'd till the time of Sale.

This Day is Publish'd,

An Epistle from Mr. Fenton to Mr. Southe... Price 3d. Printed for Benj. Tooke and Bern. Lintott. Where ... be had a Poem to the Right Honourable Robert Harley, Esq; ... Appearing in Publick after the Wound given him by Guiscard. ... Jos. Trapp, A.M. price 2d.

Just Publish'd,

An Account of the present State and Governm... of the Empire of Germany: In a Letter to Thomas Foley of ... ley in the County of Worcester, Esq; by M. Le Vassor. Printed ... Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's Head over-against Catherine-Str... the Strand.

The Life and Acts of Mathew Parker, the First ... bishop of Canterbury in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth. Under ... Primacy and Influence the Reformation of Religion was ... Effected; and the Church of England Restored, and Establish... the Principles wherein it stands to this Day. Wherein are ... the said Archbishop's Actions in Ecclesiastical Commissions and ... His Visitations of the Diocese, Colleges and Hospitals within ... Province, with his Injunctions and Regulations: Characters and ... counts of the Bishops by him Consecrated: His Endeavours for U... formity: His Diligence in Retrieving, and Publishing many ... and other Ancient Historical MSS. of this Nation: His Procu... a more correct Translation of the Holy Bible: His Government ... his own Diocese of Canterbury: His sober Thoughts, Counsels ... Cares for Religion and this Church: And many Particulars of ... Ecclesiastical History of those Times, hitherto Unknown, or ... Obscure, are discovered and brought to Light. Compiled Faithfully ... of Records, Registers, State-Papers, Orders of Council, Autho... Letters, and sundry other Original MSS. In Four Books. To ... is added, An Appendix, containing various Transcripts of Rem... Letters, Instruments, Ordinances, Commissions, Discourses, Rela... Intelligences, and other secret Papers, above an Hundred in Nu... ber; for the Asserting or Illustrating the foregoing History. And ... which will be found the Latin Life of this A. Pp. Excise... Matthæus, so much and so long wanted in the Editions of the Br... tish Antiquities. By John Strype, M. A. Printed for John Wy... at the Rose in St. Paul's Church-yard.

A convenient House to be Lett at East-Acton i... Middlesex, four Rooms on a Floor, wall'd in, with Coach-hou... Stabling, Orchard, Garden, and all Conveniencies belonging to it, ... very good Repair. Whosoever takes it may come into it as soon ... they please. Inquire at Mr. Lamb's, or at the House, both in E... Acton aforesaid.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and ... Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in ... as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* ... the *Strand*.